

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/J:STAFF:BCL
APPROVED BY EA/J - NICHOLAS PLATT
-----116584 240833Z /11
R 240318Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PGOV, EGEN, MARR, JA, US

SUBJECT:WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - JAPAN, MARCH 23, 1978

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/J - NICHOLAS PLATT

1. FUKUDA VISIT (CONFIDENTIAL)

EMBASSY TOKYO HAS COMMENTED POSITIVELY ON OUR INITIAL
PLANNING PAPER FOR THE FUKUDA VISIT AND SENT SUGGESTIONS
FOR THE AGENDA AND BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S
BRIEFING BOOK. WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER MEETING AT NSC EARLY
NEXT WEEK TO MAKE WORK ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE PAPERS. IN THE
MEANTIME, I HAVE ASKED THE EMBASSY TO SEND US CONTRIBUTIONS
BY APRIL 3.

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AS YOU KNOW, THE JAPANESE EMBASSY ASKED OUR VIEWS ON THE
GOJ'S IDEA THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HOST A BREAKFAST AT BLAIR
HOUSE ON MAY 2 TO WHICH HE WOULD INVITE "ECONOMIC CABINET
MEMBERS INCLUDING BLUMENTHAL AND STRAUSS." WE HAVE TOLD
THEM WE THINK THIS WOULD BE A GOOD GESTURE AND HAVE SUGGEST-
ED THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE TWO NAMED ABOVE, THEY INVITE

KREPS, SCHULTZE, MILLER, COOPER AND YOU. THEY ASKED WHETHER WE WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP ARRANGE THIS BREAKFAST, AND WE TOLD THEM WE WOULD.

THE JAPANESE WERE ALSO CONCERNED THAT NOT ENOUGH TIME WAS BEING ALLOWED ON THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE TO PERMIT FULL DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA ITEMS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE NSC, WE TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT THOUGH THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD START AT 10:30 AM, THE CLOSING POINT WOULD BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO LEAVE SUFFICIENT TIME. AMBASSADOR TOGO IS CALLING ON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL DOBELLE TOMORROW MORNING TO DISCUSS PROTOCOL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT. WE WILL ATTEND THAT MEETING.

2. DISCLOSURE POLICY (SECRET)

THE NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY COMMITTEE WILL MEET AGAIN MARCH 27 TO DETERMINE JAPAN'S DISCLOSURE STATUS. STATE AND ISA SUBMITTED A PAPER STRONGLY URGING UPGRADING TO NATO-LEVEL. AN ISA POLL INDICATES THAT WE HAVE THE NECESSARY VOTES AND ISA IS PREPARED TO USE DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRETARY DUNCAN IF NEEDED. WE ARE IN BETTER SHAPE THAN LAST TIME, BUT, GIVEN THE OBSTRUCTIONIST NATURE OF THE NDPC STAFF AND SOME OTHERS, WE WILL NOT BREATHE EASY UNTIL WE HAVE SUCCEEDED. AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD'S PERSONAL APPEAL TO SECRETARY BROWN ON MARCH 9 IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
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OUR IMPROVED POSITION.

3. HITACHI VISIT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD'S REQUEST MRS. CARTER WILL RECEIVE PRINCE AND PRINCESS HITACHI FOR TEA 11:45 AM

APRIL 6. SHE IS EXPECTED TO TAKE THEM TO THE OVAL OFFICE TO MEET THE PRESIDENT.

4. PORPOISE KILL PROTEST GAINS SECOND WIND

WE ARE TOLD THAT HR 1065, EXPRESSING THE HOUSE'S REVULSION AGAINST THE IKI ISLAND PORPOISE KILL THREE WEEKS AGO, HAS ACCUMULATED 50 CO-SIGNERS AND MAY BE SCHEDULED FOR JOINT HEARINGS BY THE ASIA-PACIFIC AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HIRC AFTER EASTER RECESS.

5. COURT COMPELS RELEASE OF TRIGGER PRICE DATA (LOU)

THE JUDGE HEARING THE DAVIS-WALKER CORPORATION CHALLENGE TO THE IMPORTED STEEL TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM (TPM)

REJECTED ON MARCH 23 TREASURY'S CLAIM THAT THE PRODUCTION COST DATA SUPPLIED IT BY THE GOJ WAS COVERED BY THE EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE DOCTRINE. HE DIRECTED TREASURY TO PRODUCE IT FORTHWITH. TREASURY, CONCERNED LEST REFUSAL LEAD THE JUDGE TO DECLARE THE TPM ILLEGAL, COMPLIED.

THE GOJ COLLECTED THE COST DATA FROM JAPANESE FIRMS AND PROVIDED IT TO TREASURY IN AGGREGATED FORM IN THE EXPECTATION THAT IT WOULD BE CLOSELY HELD WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH (ALTHOUGH THE JAPANESE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE COURTS MIGHT COMPEL DISCLOSURE). THE EMBASSY SENT US A NOTE ON MARCH 20 URGING THAT THE DATA BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. IT WARNED THAT IN THE EVENT IT WERE SUPPLIED TO PERSONS OUTSIDE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, "IT WOULD THEREAFTER BECOME SECRET

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EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SECURE COOPERATION" FROM THE JAPANESE STEELMAKERS. EB TELLS US THAT WITHOUT THE QUARTERLY DATA PROVIDED BY THE FIRMS, THE TPM CANNOT BE MAINTAINED. VANCE

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